ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*1. [*The questioners (Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Shri Kailashpati Mishra) were absent. For answer* vide *cols* 36 infra]

*2. [*The questioner (Dr. Bapu Kaldate) was absent. For answer* vide *cols* 37 infra]

*3. [*The questioner (Shri Kamal Morarka) was absent. For answer* vide *cols* 37-38 infra]

*4. [*The questioner (Shrimati Suryakanta Jayawantrao Patil) was absent. For answer* vide *cols* 38 *infra*]

*5. [*The questioner (Shri Ram Awadhesh Singh) was absent. For answer* vide *cols* 39-40 infra]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 6. Dr. Mohd. Hashim Kidwai.

Financial Assistance for Industrial Development in the Backward Districts of Uttar Pradesh

*6. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of districts in Uttar Pradesh which have been declared as backward districts;

(b) what is the financial assistance so far provided by the Central Government for their industrial development and the amount spent out of it till March 31, 1989; and

(c) what are the number and names of industries set up so far in these districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Forty one districts have been identified as industrially backward districts in Uttar Pradesh by the Central Government.

(b) Government of India reimburses claims received from State Governments/Union Territories and upto 31st March, 1989, an amount of Rs. 99.69 crores was disbursed to Uttar Pradesh from the inception of the Scheme in 1971, under the Capital Incentive Subsidy Scheme for Industrialisation of Backward Areas. In addition, Rs. 2.90 crores was disbursed to U. P. under the Transport Subsidy Scheme.

(c) Monitoring the progress of implementation of Industrial Licences etc. is done by the concerned State Government. The following numbers of Letters of Intent (LOI), Industrial Licences (ILs), DGTD Registrations and De-licensed Industries Registrations (DLRs) have been issued to Industrially backward districts of Uttar Pradesh from 1985 to 1988 :

Year	LOIs	ILs	DGTD Regns.	DLR
1985	105	44	175	9
1986	79	34	98	291
1987	59	23	84	262
1988	86	20	64	213

1,24,336 SSI Units have been registered in Uttar Pradesh (both backward and non-backward districts) as on December, 1987.

DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Sir, I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether this amount of Rs. 99·69 crores is from the year 1971 or whether it is for the year 1988-89 only.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, the subsidy given to the Government, that is, Rs. 99·69 crores, is from 1971 to 1989.

DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: I would like to know the criteria for declaring a district as a backward district.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: A committee had been appointed, and they suggested ways and means of declaring an area as a backward area. On that consideration only we declare an area as a backward area.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Is it a fact that several backward and undeclared districts of Uttar Pradesh, particularly in the eastern region of Uttar Pradesh, continue to be a 'zero' progress districts because of the indifferent policies of both the Central and State Governments, and we have requested time and again to declare some of them as 'zero' districts. People in these districts are very keen for making efforts to develop these regions and these districts. But the corrupt bureaucracy has come in the way and frustrated our attempts. May I know from the Government what is the share of backward districts of U. P. in the industrial production of U. P., as well as the country as a whole? I also want an assurance that the Government will consider launching a full-fledged programme of industrial development linked with agro-industries in the backward areas of Uttar Pradesh.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): Sir, now we have introduced the growth centre scheme. To satisfy all the backward areas in the State of U.P., for instance, U. P. is getting 6 growth centres in the first instance. In this way all the backward areas will be covered.

SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA: I want to know the norms on the basis it is judged that a district is a backwared area.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM Sir, the norm is that where there is an investment of Rs. 30 crores in industry in a block, it is not considered as backward (*Interruptions*)

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: The following shall be the criterion followed for selection of growth centres.

The Growth Centres shall be located in conformity with the distance criteria announced in the press note of June 3, 1988, referred to above. That is, they shall not be within 50 kms from the boundary of the 7 cities with a population of above 25 lakhs from the boundary of the 2 cities with a population of above 15 lakhs but below 25 lakhs and 15 kms from the boundary of the 12 cities with a population of 7·5 lakhs but below 15 lakhs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is for Growth Centres. What is the criteria for deciding that a district is a backward area? You have got two: Growth Centres and backward districts. How do you decide this. That is what the Hon. Member wanted to know.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: The backward district concept has gone. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): The criteria has gone. Now this is the criterion for Growth Centres. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Is it a fact that financial assistance to the industrially backward districts has been stopped by the Government in September last? This assistance was given by way of subsidy for the schemes.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: The investment subsidy which was given to the industries established in the backward areas has been stopped from September, 1988. It is pending with the Government. The Government has to decide about it.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: These growth centres which were decided upon last year are getting obsolete because of the change in the economic situation in the country. Will the Ministry like to make a review and decide about the growth Centres established in Rajasthan once again?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: We have been selecting these centres only on the recommendations of the State Governments. We get the recommendation from the State Governments. We hope to select the growth centres in all the States by the end of June.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, the hon. Minister has not given the criteria for declaring the backward districts. The Minister has said that in place of it, the growth centres have come. The Government of India has announced about 61 growth centres in the country. Some of the backward districts have come under the scheme of the growth centres. Some industries are existing in the backward districts at present. Due to financial constraint some of the industries have been closed. I would like to know whether the Government will assist those industries also or will they assist the industries which are to be set up in future?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: Sir, Pondicherry is not a district. It is a Union Territory.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I am asking a general question. I am not asking about Pondicherry.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: Pondicherry also has got one growth centre. No subsidy has been given to any backward district in the country from September, 1988.

डा० अबरार अहमद खान : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूं कि जो भी डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स बैकवर्ड होने को कंसीडर किए गए हैं क्या पूरे देश में उन डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स को एक क्राइटेरिया के बेसिस पर बैकवर्ड घोषित किया गया है या उन को ऐसे डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स दिए हैं जो कंसीडर की फुलफिल करते हैं, लेकिन उनको बैकवर्ड घोषित नहीं किया गया है ? यदि ऐसा है तो डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स दिए हैं, और अब तक पूरे देश में कितने जिलों को बैकवर्ड घोषित किया गया है

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: Sir, this is a question about U. P. In U. P., the number of backward districts under Category A is 15. In Category B, the number of such districts is 5 and in Category C the number is 21. This is about U. P. I am giving him the information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you supply to the hon. Members the list of backward districts in the whole of India which are not being covered so that they know about these things?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: That information has already been supplied.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Make it available to them. They can ask for it under the rules.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: No objection, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can supply the information about the number of such districts. The matter will end.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: It has been published long back.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If it has been published, then you have got copies. Send them a copy.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : We will send him a copy, Sir.

Functioning of Courier Services

*87. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the criteria for selecting and issuing licences for courier services;

(b) how many courier services are presently functioning in the country, what are their names and addresses;

(c) whether any complaints have been received from public against these services; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No licence is being issued by Department of Posts for operation of courier services.

(b) Information is not available on the number of couriers operating in the country.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (a) and (b).

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to point out that though no licences are being given according to the Minister's reply about courier services, this is well-known that hundreds of courier services are working in the country today and a lot of manipulations are going on in this service. In fact, Sir, even small rickshaw-pullers have to get a licence whereas these multinationals and large companies operating as courier services are not covered under the licencing system and they are operating with no restriction, and they are taking the country for a ride. Can the Minister explain why this situation is being allowed to continue? Specially, Sir, I would request the Minister to look into one M/s. ICPL, working at different places. They invariably take the consignments from the poor citizens of the country and whenever any valuables are sent, they are being taken away by them and no compensation is being given. Therefore, Sir, my first supplementary is why no licences are being given.

संचार मंत्री (श्री बीर बहादुर सिंह) : मान्यवर, जैसा कि . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you not opposing curier services or are you opposed to courier services?

श्री बीर बहादुर सिंह : मान्यवर, यही करिअर सर्विस देश में चल रही है, यह बात सब को मालूम है। लेकिन भारतीय डाक-घर अधिनियम 1898 की धारा 4 के अनुसार केवल हम पत्र ले जाने पर प्रतिबंध लगा सकते हैं, उस पर जुर्माना कर सकते हैं। लेकिन किसी को कोई दस्तावेज ले जाने पर, कोई और चीज ले जाने पर कोई प्रतिबंध नहीं लगा सकते हैं और न कोई लाइसेंस जारी कर सकते हैं। तो जो कूरियर द्वारा काम किया जा रहा है वह इस तरह का काम किया जा रहा है। महोदय, जहां इस तरह की कोई बात होती है उनको हम देखते हैं और उसकी छानबीन करते हैं।

श्री सभापति : जहां चिट्ठी वगैरह जाती हैं इस तरह तो आप उनको बंद कर सकते हैं . . .

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया : मेरे सवाल के जवाब में मंत्री महोदय ने जो पत्र ले